

From: Richard Evans
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/22/02 12:49pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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January 12,

2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I have been in business for some time and have observed that there have been some reasonable settlements that have come from the prosecution of anti-competitive practices cases and there are some that leave consumers and businesses worse than before the settlement. I do not believe that measure proscribed by Judge Penfield Jackson would have helped the consumer or business in general. The proposed settlement appears reasonable to me.

Therefore I support the ending of this three-year litigation. Let Microsoft devote 100% of its efforts to developing and supporting innovative new products that are easy to use and universally compatible. In the past three years the company has diverted too much of its attention to defending themselves in this lawsuit, and the net result is that they have been spending less time innovating. This settlement appears to offer reasonable terms and, bringing it to a close now will be in the best interest of our economy, and the consumers that want to use a rich range of software applications.

The settlement imposes several specific restrictions and obligations on Microsoft's business practices. I believe that these restrictions insure that fair competition will not be jeopardized. Microsoft has agreed to design future versions of Windows that will promote non-Microsoft software within Windows. These are benefits that can help consumers and help stimulate economic growth.

To end this litigation now is in the best interest of American consumers, businesses and the economy in general. Thank you.

MTC-00014639_0002

Sincerely,

Richard Evans